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A NEW SUBGENUS OF *PLECOSTOMUS* FROM BRAZIL

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CARINOTUS, new subgenus

Dorsal I, 9, originating slightly in front of the ventrals, separated from the supraoccipital by four scutes. A naked area behind temporal plate, slightly larger than first scute of lower lateral series. Body flat below from anal to caudal. Between dorsal and adipose two pairs of scutes, followed by five azygous scutes, the latter forming a rising keel to adipose spine.

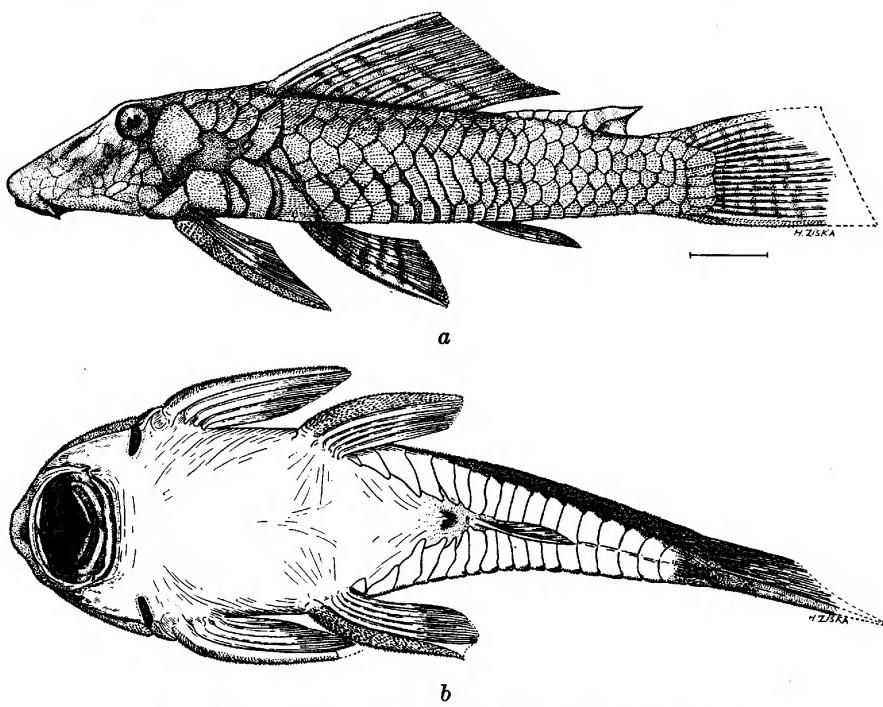


Fig. 1. *Plecostomus (Carinotus) carinotus*, new species
a, lateral view; *b*, ventral view.

Body oblong; first scute of lower lateral series posterior to clavicle and temporal plate, separating the second entirely from the latter; lower surface of head and abdomen entirely naked; snout with naked margin. Opercle and interopercle not independently movable, without marginal bristles. Mouth large, premaxillaries slightly

longer than dentaries and opposed to them; teeth numerous, hooked inward, long, very slender, thick-set, bifid, forming a single series in each jaw, about $\frac{6}{10}$ on each mandibular ramus. Anal I, 4. Adipose fin represented by a spine and a membrane attaching it posteriorly to the caudal peduncle.

TYPE.—*Plecostomus carinotus*, new species.

Plecostomus (Carinotus) carinotus, new species

The type, our only specimen, Number 11911, American Museum of Natural History, was collected by Dr. O. Couto de Aguirre, in the Rio Doce, Estado do Espírito Santo, eastern Brazil. It measures 235 mm. standard length.

The head is measured from the tip of the snout to the posterior margin of the temporal plate.

Depth of body, 5.4 in its length; length of head, 3.6. Length of snout, 1.6; diameter of eye, 6; interorbital width, 3 in head. Length of mandibular ramus, 1.3 in the interorbital width. Barbel rudimentary. Snout broad, rounded, median ridge before nostrils, supraorbital margins raised; supraoccipital flat; temporal plates not keeled. Scutes spinulose, only carinate on posterior ventral edges and before adipose fin; 24 in longitudinal series, counting as the first one the scute posterior to clavicle and not including plates covering bases of caudal rays. Between dorsal and adipose 2 pairs, followed by 5 azygous plates which form a rising keel terminating in the adipose spine, 8 between anal and caudal. Supraoccipital bordered posteriorly by three unequal scutes. Lower surface of head and abdomen entirely naked. Dorsal I, 9 (mutilated), the first ray not as long as head and not reaching adipose when laid back; length of base of dorsal more than its distance from tip of spine of adipose. Anal I, 4. Pectoral I, 5, extending to anterior third of ventral which is I, 5. Caudal mutilated.

Color in alcohol yellowish tan, slightly darker above and on head than below; dark blotches on head scutes and on those between supraoccipital and dorsal; fins all crossed by rows of darkish spots; dorsal rays with dark tips.